

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1 to 5 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, add new Claim 21 and amend the claims as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, read as follows:

1. to 10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A storage apparatus ~~that connects to a removable medium;~~ comprising:

a first interface unit for connection to a first external apparatus, said first interface unit having a first port to which the first external apparatus is connectable and disconnectable and through which said first interface unit connects to the first external apparatus ~~having a first port;~~

a second interface unit for connection to a second external apparatus, said second interface unit having a second port to which the second external apparatus is connectable and disconnectable and through which said second interface unit connects to the second external apparatus ~~having a second port;~~

a third interface unit for connection to a removable storage medium; and

a control unit that controls the first port and the second port; and

~~a determination unit that~~ wherein if said first interface unit detects that the first external apparatus is connected to the first port, said control unit determines whether

[[a]] the first external apparatus is capable of accessing the removable storage medium through the first port and that connected to said third interface unit,

wherein if said second interface unit detects that the second external apparatus is connected to the second port, said control unit determines whether [[a]] the second external apparatus is capable of accessing the removable storage medium through the second port connected to said third interface unit,

wherein said control unit sets the second port in a disabled state responsive to a determination that [[a]] the first external apparatus connected to the first port is capable of accessing the removable storage medium connected to said third interface unit,[[;]] and

wherein said control unit sets the ~~the~~ first port in the disabled state responsive to a determination that [[a]] the second external apparatus connected to the second port is capable of accessing the removable storage medium connected to said third interface unit.

12. (Currently Amended) The storage apparatus according to claim 11, wherein if the first port is set in the disabled state, the first port ~~is placed in a state where electrical connection with~~ can not electrically connect to the first external apparatus is impossible, and

wherein if the second port is set in the disabled state, the second port is ~~placed in a state where electrical connection with~~ can not electrically connect to the second external apparatus ~~is impossible.~~

13. (Previously Presented) The storage apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said first interface unit conforms to an IEEE 1394-1995 standard or an IEEE 1394a-2000 standard.

14. (Previously Presented) The storage apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said second interface unit conforms to a USB 1.1 standard or a USB 2.0 standard.

15. (Previously Presented) The storage apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the storage apparatus is a digital video camera.

16. to 20. (Canceled)

21. (New) The storage apparatus according to claim 11, wherein if said first interface unit receives a predetermined command from the first external apparatus, said control unit determines that the first external apparatus is capable of accessing the removable storage medium connected to said third interface unit, and

wherein if said second interface unit receives a predetermined command from the second external apparatus, said control unit determines that the second external apparatus is capable of accessing the removable storage medium connected to said third interface unit.